

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 1-10 without prejudice to their patentability.

Please add the following new claims:

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A1 11. A device for thermal sterilization of liquids comprising:

a counterflow heat exchanger including a conduit with a heating section and a cooling section in fluid connection with one another,

a heating source for heating the liquid,

the heating section and the cooling section being spirally arranged around the heating source,

the heating source being generally located in the center of the spiral,

said conduit being constructed of flexible material,

individual windings of conduit lying one on the other and contacting each other, and

a device for allowing liquid flow only in a direction from the heating section to the cooling section.

12. A device as forth in claim 11 wherein the device is a check valve.

13. A device as set forth in claim 11 wherein the fitting is arranged on the heating section.

14. A device as set forth in claim 13 wherein the fitting is arranged at the inlet end of the heating section.

15. A device as set forth in claim 11 wherein the conduit comprises two elastic films welded to one another at their lengthwise edges.

16. A device as set forth in claim 11 wherein the conduit comprises first, second and third elastic films welded to one other at their lengthwise edges and wherein the first and second films are separated from each other by the third film.

17. A device as set forth in claim 11 wherein the conduit comprises two tubular individual conduits arranged one inside the other.

18. A device as set forth in claim 11 wherein the individual windings of conduit lie in the same plane.

19. A device as set forth in claims 11 wherein the individual windings of the conduit are arranged in a spherical form.

20. A device as set forth in claim 11 wherein the conduit is made of a metal film.

21. A device as set forth in claim 11 wherein the conduit is made of a plastic film.

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**IN THE ABSTRACT**

Add:

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**ABSTRACT**

The invention relates to a device for the thermal sterilization of liquids. The inventive device includes a heat exchanger with a heat source around which a pipe of an elastic material is wound through which the liquid to be sterilized flows.

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